

USSN 10/667,648

Response to Final Office Action mailed 03/07/07

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REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the amendments above and remarks below is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7, 9-14 and 16-18 are currently before the Examiner. Claim 1 has been amended.

Claims 1, 3-7, 9-14, and 16-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Allen (U.S. Patent No. 4,393,181). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

In response, applicants have initially amended claim 1 to further define the curing agent as an amine or amide containing curing agent with epoxy reactive NH groups. Support for this amendment can be found in examples 1-4 of the present application, wherein the reactive area of the curing agent dicyandiamide includes epoxy reactive NH groups.

Allen does not teach or suggest the use of an amine or amide containing curing agent with epoxy reactive NH groups.

Allen is directed to specific curing agents which are polyfunctional phenolic adducts of substituted amino-triazine compounds which have unreactive tertiary amine groups. As found in column 1 lines 61-64, the compositions of Allen are prepared by heating and reacting a stoichiometric excess of a polyhydric phenol with an amino-triazine. The tertiary amine groups of the amino-triazine are not epoxy reactive in this placement.

Therefore, Allen does not teach or suggest the use of an amine or amide containing curing agent with epoxy reactive NH groups as described in claim 1, as amended, or that this use would result in resin coated articles having enhanced thermal properties (Examples 1, 2, 3, and 4) such as improved resistance to elevated temperatures as desired, for example, in printed circuit board applications.

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Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Allen (U.S. Patent No. 4,393,181) in view of Seltzer *et al.* (US Pat. No. 4,168,364). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Referring to the discussion above regarding Allen, claim 2 is dependant upon and incorporates the limitations of claim 1 and is considered patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims of the present application are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or requires additional information, he is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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